

day will see that as much ridicule was used and the opposition was as violent against education for women as it is now against giving them the suffrage; and as many prophecies were made of evil to come therefrom. A few years later, when the movement to give women property rights was begun, the agitation against it, the ridicule and prophecies of evil, were still more violent. Up to that time the common-law rule that woman was a chattel and was under the control of her husband was generally maintained. As late as 1868 the Supreme Court of North Carolina reiterated the common-law doctrine that if a man thrashed his wife with "a switch no larger than his thumb," and no permanent injury was inflicted, the law would not protect her. One of my predecessors as Chief Justice held that this had always been so, because it was the husband's duty to "make his wife behave herself," and to hold otherwise would "encourage insubordination"! No statute has changed the law in this respect, but our judges have learned to behave themselves. At any rate, no one believes that the present Chief Justice, under any circumstances, will follow that decision.

As I have said, notwithstanding the boasted chivalry of the southern states, we have been the slowest in giving women freedom from the husband's lash or their property rights, and we are now the slowest in giving them that right of suffrage to which their intelligence and patriotism entitle them. Indeed, Virginia and North Carolina are among the slowest even in the South. In Kentucky, Mississippi, Louisiana, they have the right to vote in school elections and on assessment of taxes and issue of bonds. In Arizona they have full suffrage. In some of the other southern states they are trustees on school boards, to which point North Carolina moved up last year. Indeed, Kentucky conferred school suffrage on women as far back as 1838. School suffrage for women, that is, the right to vote on all matters affecting the schools, obtains in Connecticut, Delaware, Kansas, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, Ohio, Oklahoma, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Dakota, South Dakota, Vermont, Wisconsin, a total of 18 states, besides the 10 states and 1 territory in which they have full suffrage. In addition to this, there are several states which have conferred municipal suffrage, and others in